

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 100822

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ORIGIN EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 SCI-03 L-02 NSCE-00 NSC-10 INR-09

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 COA-01 NSF-01 DODE-00

PM-03 USIE-00 PRS-01 COME-00 RSC-01 /056 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/ SOV: JFMATLOCK

X29559 5/24/73

APPROVED BY EUR/ SOV: JFMATLOCK

EUR/ SOV: NANDREWS

SCI/ SA: NPNEUREITER

L/ SCI: EMAURER

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: TGEN, UR

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE US- USSR AGREEMENT ON OCEANOGRAPHY

REF: MOSCOW 6014, 5921

1. TEXT AS PROVIDED IN MOSCOW 5921 WITH FURTHER CHANGES AS NOTED IN MOSCOW 6014 APPROVED WITH FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

2. WE AGREE WITH STYLISTIC IMPROVEMENT IN ARTICLE 4 PLACING PHRASE " AS APPROPRIATE" IN FRONT OF VERBS " ENCOURAGE, FACILITATE AND REVIEW."

3. IF LAST SENTENCE OF ARTICLE 4 STAYS IN THE AGREEMENT, IT SHOULD READ: " SUCH IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL, AS APPROPRIATE, OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE 5."

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SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 100822

4. STRONG SOVIET RELUCTANCE TO ACCEPT " MONITOR" OR SYNONYM THEREOF RAISES SERIOUS QUESTION OF THEIR REAL INTENTIONS REGARDING USE OF AGREEMENT IN DEALING WITH PRIVATE FIRMS WITHOUT KEEPING US INFORMED. THOUGH WE DONT INSIST ON " MONITOR" IN ARTICLE FOUR, AND CAN-- AS SUGGESTED PREVIOUSLY -- ACCEPT " REVIEW," THE PHRASE " PAY ATTENTION TO," OR VARIANTS OF IT, ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. ONE CAN PAY ATTENTION TO A MATTER WITHOUT HAVING THE RIGHT TO BE INFORMED OF IT. THE TERM USED MUST CLEARLY CONNOTE THE RIGHT TO BE KEPT INFORMED, RATHER THAN AN OBLIGATION TO DEVOTE

ATTENTION TO THE SUBJECT. WE CANNOT ACCEPT THAT THERE ARE VALID SOVIET OBJECTIONS TO ALL THE VARIOUS RUSSIAN TERMS WE HAVE PROPOSED AS POSSIBILITIES (NABLYUDAT' ZA, SLEDIT' ZA, PROSMATRIVAT; RASSMATRIVAT; INFORMMIROVAT' SYA O, OSVEDOMLYAT' SYA O.) CONNOTATIONS OF SPYING, IN OTHER THAN CLEAR ESPIONAGE CONTEXTS, DO NOT EMERGE IN SOVIET DICTIONARY DEFINITIONS OF THESE TERMS, INCLUDING THOSE IN THE PRESUMABLY DINITIVE SEVENTEEN- VOLUME SLOVAR' S SOVREMENNOGO RUSSKOGO PIS' MENNOGO LITERATURNOGO TAZYKA, PUBLISHED BY THE INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS OF THE USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. DO THE SOVIET NEGOTIATORS SUGGEST THAT THEY ARE MORE AUTHORITATIVE ON THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE THAN THE OFFICIAL DICTIONARY OF THEIR OWN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES? OR THAT THEIR SCHOLARS EXCLUDE IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS FROM THEIR DICTIONARIES?

5. AS ULTIMATE FALL- BACK, WE COULD CONSIDER " MONITOR" OR " REVIEW" IN ENGLISH, WITH RUSSIAN TRANSLATION AS " UDELYAT' S DOLZHNOYE VNIMANIE." IF IN DELEGATION; S AND SOVIET SIDE' S OPINION, THIS IS ADEQUATE TRANSLATION OF ENGLISH TERMS, IT COULD BE INCLUDED IN AD REFERENDUM AGREEMENT FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION BY OUR LANGUAGE SPECIALISTS. WE CANNOT, HOWEVER, ACCEPT " PAY DUE ATTENTION" IN ENGLISH.

6. DELEGATION, THEREFORE, SHOULD NOT SIGN OR OTHERWISE ACKNOWLEDGE DRAFT AGREEMENT UNLESS THIS POINT RESOLVED. THERE WOULD BE, HOWEVER, NO POINT IN TEAM REMAINING LON/ FR IN MOSCOW AND FATE OF " MONITOR" CAN BE SETTLED BY HIGHER AUTHORITIES.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 100822

7. IF POINT RESOLVED AND SIGNING CEREMONY SCHEDULED, IT IS, OF COURSE, ESSENTIAL THAT IT BE PRIVATE AND NOT ANNOUNCED TO THE PRESS. RUSH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE100822
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JFMATLOCK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730553/aaaajsf.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 73 MOSCOW 6014, 5921
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27-Sep-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <04-Dec-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980304
Subject: POSSIBLE US- USSR AGREEMENT ON OCEANOGRAPHY
TAGS: TGEN, UR
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005